The Kwitny Report on the JFK assassination, 11/20/88
aired on NNYC-TV, New York, 25th anniversary

David Scheim and John H.Davis were featured, along with Arlen Specter and David Belin. (It did not include a single-bullet debate, as indicated earlier.)

The allegations of mafia/Carlos Marcello involvement in the assassination ranged from merely exaggerated to outright lies that cannot be accidental misstatements.

Typical of the significance of these untruths is the allegation that J. Edgar Hoover wrote a special report he withheld from the Warren Commission in which he allegedly said that there was an Oswald imposter in Mexico. They kept coming back to this canard over and over again. It was, in fact, a Hoover letter to James Rowley, head of the Secret Service, written a week before the Commission was appointed, and it reports that FBI agents who heard an Oswald in Mexico tape and saw the pictures the CIA provided said it was not Oswald. This cannot reasonably, on the basis of what is known, be interpreted as meaning and saying more than what we've known all along, that the picture is not of Oswald.

Kwitny began the show with unjustified puffery, saying he was offering evidence "never before publicized," an odd formulation that suggests but does not mean entirely mew, and there was nothing new except the lies. He represented that 100% of the criticism of the official mythology is "conspiracy theorists," which is the best that can be said for what he then was airing.

Marcello was "the link" between Oswald and Ferrie, they claim. Scheim said that Ruby was big in narcotics, no doubt the reason he was so deep in debt.

Much overblown to allege a major connection between Ruby and the mob in Chicago, through Jimmy Hoffa, Paul Dorfman and others. Nothing substantial offered.

Oswald's alleged connection to Marcello was through his uncle, of whom the most they could say is that he ran a numbers book, pretty at best. Davis added that Ferrie and Guy Banister "worked for Marcello." (Ferrie worked for Marcello's lawyers, not Marcello, and there is no evidence of any Banister-Marcello connection of which I know.)

Allegation that Oswald was "very close" to the CIA through someone they did not name or whose name I did not get after his return from the USSR. (Doesn't this make it a CIA/ Marcello/mafia job?)

"Only one group had anything to gain from" the JFK assassinatiin, they state! Crazy!

They have Whitey Partin, who set Hoffa up for prosecution, saying that Hoffa had said that Bobby Kennedy's home should be bombed/burned.

Ferrie referred to as "Marcello's personal aide." False, of course. And Ed Becker is described not as the FBI symbol informer, which he was, but as a businessman and they lie in saying that he left Marcello and immediately reported the alleged Marcello threat to the FBI. The FBI records I gave Davis are explicit: he made no mention at all to any such threat.

Alleged that Oswald was "seen" taking "a lot of money from Marcello. No doubt this explains Oswald's permament poverty. Can they have this twisted from the Mexico fabrication

Davis said the FBI's reports on Ferrie never reached the Commission. False. A great volume did and I got copies of them. They disclose the opposite of the Davis/Scheim representation of Ferrie and Oswald together in CAP. Ferrie then was officially not in the CAP, although he could have been informally.

(Civil Air Patrol)

HW